[Translation]

Identification of Mines

896. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise number of mines indentified since 1995-96 till date; and

(b) the number out of such mines from which minerals and metals are being extracted and the quantity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) As per the information available during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 (till 20.1.97) for the fresh grant of mining leases under Rule-22 of Mineral Concession Rules 1960, IBM has approved 402 and 313 mining plans respectively.

(b) As per the statutory returns received under MCDR, 1983, by IBM 103 new mines for various minerals were reported to have opened in the country during April, 1995 to November, 1996. Out of these, 71 mines have reported production to IBM during the same period. Details regarding State-wise/mineral-wise number of newly opened mines reporting production, and production for the period April '95 to November '96 are given in the enclosed *statement*.

Statement

TABLE : State-wise Number of Newly Opened Mines & Production of Minerals from these Mines during April-1995 to November 1996

State/Mineral	No. of Mines Newly opened	No. of Mines reported production	Total Production (tonnes)
1	2	3	4
ANDHRA PRADESH			
Barytes	1	1	-
Ballclay	1	1	780
Felspar	3	-	-
Fireclay	2	2	2553
Limestone	1	1	19195
Lime Kankar	2	2	1768 *
Mica (Crude)	1	1	1
Quartz	3	-	-
Total	14	8	-
BIHAR			
Bauxite	4	-	-
Felspar	5	2	884
Fireclay	1	1	349
Graphite	4	2	10
Iron Ore	1	1	2000
Limestone	1	1	1752
Mica	5	5	155
Quartz	**	**	595
Total :	21	12	-
GUJARAT			
Bauxite	4	2	22899
Chalk	3	3	1062
Limestone	2	2	761105
Quartz	1	-	-
Total :	10	7	-
HARYANA			
Kaolin	1	1	240
Quartz	1	-	-
Silica Sand	1	1	5472
Total :	3	2	-
HIMACHAL PRADESH			
Gypsum	1	1	-
Total :	1	1	-
KARNATAKA			
Limeshell	1	1	9425
Manganese Ore	3	1	25
Quartz	2	-	-
Silica Sand	1	1	2600
Total :	7	3	-
KERALA			
Kaolin	1	1	1352
Quartz	1	-	-
Silica Sand	4	4	15966
Total :	6	5	-
MADHYA PRADESH			
Calcite	1	1	1992
Dolomite	2	2	9984
Iron Ore	2	2	1542000
Kaolin	2	2	2768
Limestone	1	-	-
Manganese Ore	2	2	540
Pyrophyllite	2	2	
Total :	12	11	22238
MAHARASHTRA			
Limestone	1	1	13737
Total :	1	1	-

1	2	3	4
ORISSA			
Chromite	3	1	2142
Fireclay	1	1	4713
Graphite	1	-	-
Iron Ore	2	2	30000
Manganese Ore	2	-	3060
Tin Ore	1	-	-
Total :	10	4	-
RAJASTHAN			
Gypsum	3	3	140286
Limestone	1	1	287965
Lead & Zinc	1	-	-
Total :	5	4	-
TAMIL NADU			
Garnet	3	3	67530
Limestone	5	5	208209
Quartz	1	1	1693
Total :	9	9	-
UTTAR PRADESH			
Steatite	4	4	1068
Total :	4	4	1068
ALL INDIA TOTAL	103	71	-

* : Data Relates to April 1996 to November 1996

** : Number of mines covered under Felspar

[English]

Work Stopped in BSP

897. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work in the Bokaro Steel Plant was stopped on June 12, 1996 due to breakage of the bearing of the slabing mill of the said plant;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the foundation of the said mill had shaken before the accident;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken for strengthening the foundation;

(f) the losses suffered by the B.S.P. under the various hands due to the suspension of work at slabing mill and loss of slab production in tonnes per hour suffered as result of the suspension of work during the period;

(g) whether breakdown also occured in July, 1996; and

(h) if so, for how many hours?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) The driving shaft and end side bearing of Slabbing Mill became hot on 12/06/1996 leading to stoppage of the Mill. Other units of the Plant worked normally.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

(f) The producation loss suffered by the plant due to stopping of Slabbing Mill on 12.6.1996 was about 6910 tonnes of slabs.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. There was a breakdown for 28 hours 30 minutes in July, 1996.

Postal Services in Gujarat

898. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the postal services are working properly in the tribal majority areas of Gujarat particularly Bharoch and Baroda;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The postal services in the tribal majority areas of Gujarat particularly Bharoch and Baroda are satisfactory and mails are usually delivered in time. However, instance of delays may occur due to various reasons such as cancellation/late running of mail carrying buses, trains and planes, natural calamities like floods, and due to sudden and exceptionally heavy volume of mails like corporate mail and Greetings mail.

(c) The postal services in the tribal areas of the State is continuously monitored at various levels and corrective measures are taken wherever deficiencies are noticed.

[Translation]

FM Stereo Equipments on Akashvani Kendras in States

899. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install FM stereo equipments in Akashvani Kendras of all the States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incured on the said work, State-wise;